

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 06081 261436Z  
ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 SY-05 SSM-03 USSS-00  
SS-15 NSCE-00 USIE-00 PRS-01 PA-01 SP-02 NEAE-00  
FEAE-00 COME-00 AID-05 OMB-01 INRE-00 CIAE-00  
INR-07 NSAE-00 SSO-00 /059 W  
-----014326 261445Z /46

O R 261412Z OCT 77  
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
TO SECSTATE IMMEDIATE 9340  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA

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TEHRAN FOR SEC TREAS PARTY, FOR BRIDGES AND LAITIN

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: OVIP (BLUMENTHAL, W. MICHAEL)  
SUBJECT: KUWAIT PRESS REACTION TO VISIT OF SECY BLUMENTHAL (OCT.26)

1. SECY,BLUMENTHAL'S ARRIVAL AND ACCOMPANYING STATEMENT  
SHARED THE OCT. 26 HEADLINES WITH STORIES ON THE MURDER  
OF UAE MINISTER OF STATE GHUBASH AX ABU DHABI AIRPORT.  
(ALL EDITORIALS DISCUSSED THE MURDER.) HEADLINES ABOUT  
BLUMENTHAL INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING: "AMERICA DOES NOT THREATEN  
OIL COUNTRIES" (AL ANBA FRONT PAGE; "AMERICA HAS THE RIGHT  
TO PROTECT ITS INTERESTS" (AL-QABAS FRONT PAGE); "BLUMENTHAL  
DENIES SCHLESINGER THREAT" (KUWAIT TIMES FRONT PAGE; "THE  
AMERICAN SECRETARY...ARRIVES IN KUWAIT AT A TIME WHEN THE  
DOLLAR CRISIS CHANGES FROM AN ECONOMIC INTO A POLITICAL ONE"  
(AL SIYASAH, PAGE 6); "SCHLESINGER DID NOT THREATEN OIL  
COUNTRIES, HE IS MISUNDERSTOOD" (AL RAI AL AM, PAGE 15). MOST  
OF THESE STORIES QUOTED LIBERALLY AND ACCURATELY FROM  
THE SECRETARY'S ARRIVAL STATEMENT, HIGHLIGHTING  
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HIS REMARKS ABOUT THE SECURITY OF OIL SUPPLIES AND US  
RESPECT FOR EACH NATION'S RIGHT TO PROTECT NATURAL  
RESOURCES. COVERAGE OF THE VISIT BY GOK-CONTROLLED RADIO  
KUWAIT WAS TYPICALLY BLAND AND LAUDATORY OF THE GOK. IT  
HIGHLIGHTED THE SECRETARY'S COMPLIMENTARY REMARKS ABOUT  
THE HIGH LEVEL OF KUWAIT FOREIGN AID AND GOOD RELATIONS  
WITH THE US.

2. COMMENT: WE WERE PLEASED BY THE OCT. 26 LOCAL PRESS COVERAGE OF SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL'S ARRIVAL ON SEVERAL ACCOUNTS. THE VISIT WAS KEPT OUT OF THE EDITORIAL COLUMNS BY THE CONCURRENT MURDER STORY--THIS DISPLACEMENT MAY HAVE BEEN A GOOD THING, GIVEN PRIOR COOL EDITORIAL TREATMENT. ALSO, THE STORIES THEMSELVES WERE UNUSUALLY OBJECTIVE AND COMPLETE, SOME REITERATING POINT BY POINT WHAT THE SECRETARY HAD TO SAY. EVEN THE RATHER OMINOUS AL-QABAS HEADLINE QUOTED ABOVE MAY HAVE BEEN AN EDITORIAL OVERSIGHT: WE GOT A CALL FROM THE NEWSPAPER APOLOGIZING FOR THE HEADLINE AND ADMITTING THAT IT DID NOT REFLECT THE TENOR OF THE SECRETARY'S REMARKS NOR THE STORY SUMMARIZING THE REMARKS.  
MAESTRONE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1977KUWAIT06081  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION TRSE  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** KUWAIT PRESS REACTION TO VISIT OF SECY BLUMENTHAL (OCT.26)  
**TAGS:** OVIP, (BLUMENTHAL, W MICHAEL)  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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